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LB 389, 1195, 1211, 1286

separate in terms of the subject matter. And they actually are LB 1195 and LB 1286, which have been advanced from the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. AM0360 (sic--AM3060) incorporates those two particular bills; that's LB 1195 and LB 1286, with amendments. Let me try to explain what this amendment does. First of all, it provides for some service quality accountability for certain telecommunications carriers. We passed a bill that purported to do this, previously. And I think it was LB 584, (sic--LB 389) if I got the number right. But what that bill said was that wireless telecommunication carriers that access our Nebraska Universal Service Fund, and that is those wireless carriers who provide local service, would be subject to regulation by our Public Service Commission. Otherwise, wireless carriers are not subject to Public Service community...Commission regulation. The idea being, that if they're going to access this fund, which is paid into by all Nebraskans with phone service, that they should be held to some standards. It does not apply to those wireless carriers that don't access that fund. And that...we thought we did that, but it has been...the question has been raised, by people that practice in the Public Service Commission area, as to whether or not we really did it in such a way that it's enforceable. So this cleans that up, and, to the best of my knowledge, is acceptable to the wireless telecommunications industry. It is supported by the Public Service Commission. And the committee, certainly, approved this concept in the bill that was introduced. The second thing, with regard to wireless, that this does, we had a bill in our committee which was relatively controversial, I think it was LB 1286, which would have provided for some regulation of the wireless industry, in terms of a place to voice your complaints, and giving the Public Service Commission some ability to deal with that. Since we have not regulated wireless that doesn't access Universal Service Fund, this was strongly opposed by wireless carriers, as being contrary to the spirit of deregulation as creating additional bureaucracy that isn't necessary, and, in fact, could result in somewhat anticompetitive. After attempting to meet with them, as well as Public Service Commission, and find out whether we have any common ground here, it was my conclusion, and the committee supported that, that, perhaps, we should take the baby step in this area, of at least requiring wireless